

RCE/16568
PTO/SB/30 (08-00)Approved for use through 10/31/2002, OMB 0651-0031
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REQUEST

MAY 15 2002

FOR

CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/023,483	#20 Rec MAY 21 2002
Filing Date	February 13, 1998	
First Named Inventor	HEROUX et al.	
Group Art Unit	1656	
Examiner Name	J. Tung	MAY 20 2002
Attorney Docket Number	2528-2	TECH CENTER 1600/290

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment/Reply : 05/16/2002 HDEMESS1 00000030 09023483

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) 01 FC:279 370.00 OP

iv. Other PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-1140

i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

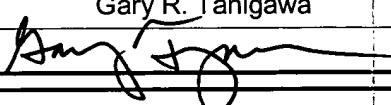
ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$830.00 _____ enclosed

c. Payment by credit card (For PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Gary R. Tanigawa	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,180
Signature		Date	May 15, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print Type)			
Signature		Date	

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